

In Port

SAILING DATE: OCTOBER 9 - 16, 2004

VOYAGE: 100



Holland America Line

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas

Island residents are generally friendly and welcome visitors to their paradise. The amazing **Coral World** observatory offering glimpses of the remarkable and colorful underwater world in a coral reef ecosystem.

Like many *New World* islands, St. Thomas was ruled at various times by the local French, Spanish, and English expeditionary forces, who were searching the area for new territory and commercial opportunities. In 1665, Erik Neilson Smith, a Danish sea captain, assumed governorship of the islands with the support of the King of Denmark. In the next century, the other two large islands and surrounding islets were acquired. Turbulent Danish rule continued until the 20th century. During that time, British forces occupied the territory several times, but Denmark retained control.

The United States government had already recognized the strategic advantage of a Caribbean military base, especially after the opening of the Panama Canal, but it

took 50 years for the purchase to become finalized. The first purchase agreement was signed in 1867. Unfortunately, Secretary of State William Henry Seward had just purchased Alaska for US\$7 million, and the move, known as *Seward's Folly*, was not popular in Congress. The US\$7.5 million contract was approved in Denmark, but the United States Senate refused to authorize another land purchase at that time. At the turn of the century, another proposal was made. This time the price was only \$5 million. Denmark rejected the paltry contract out of hand. But when World War I began in 1914, the United States began to worry that Denmark might lose control of the territory to hostile forces. This fear drove negotiations. The Danes were shrewd, and the price tag was raised to \$25 million. The sale was finalized in 1917. Seward's Folly indeed! The final price – nearly \$300 per acre, represents one of America's most expensive land acquisitions ever and as in the rest of the world, real estate prices have not exactly diminished!

In case of emergency contact:

Port Agent: West Indian Company Ltd.

Telephone: 776-4170

Port Particulars



Tracey Flynn
Port & Shopping Ambassador

St. Thomas is administrative center for the US Virgin Islands. The arrival point for most visitors, and the territory's commercial center, Charlotte Amalie (pro-

nounced *shar lut uh MAL yuh*), is the main port and welcomes nearly 50 passenger vessels each month. On busy days, there can be 10 ships in port.

Going Ashore: The ship is scheduled to dock or anchor at Charlotte Amalie. Check your daily program for exact arrival information

Official Language: English

Currency: US dollar

Beaches: Popular Magens Bay is on the north shore. Hull Bay is the surfer's beach, and Coki Point Beach is perfect for snorkeling

1. DIAMONDS INTERNATIONAL

Diamonds International is the #1 Jeweler in all the Caribbean. A must see and a must stop for Diamond lovers! With a selection of loose diamonds in every shape, size, color and clarity, this is a selection of diamond jewelry that you will never see anywhere else, offering the best price in all the Caribbean. GIA and EGL certified diamonds! Lifetime upgrade, trade-ins welcome! New York based customer service, 1-800-51-jewel!

2. CARDOW OF ST. THOMAS
The Largest and Finest selection of gemstones and gold in the world. Over 10,000 rings alone from \$50 to \$500,000. Certified IGI Appraisals and laser inscribed I.D. Number for diamonds. Visit the Cardow Main St. store. A "must see" for every visitor to the islands! Visit the Treasure Cove's \$299 and less section! Shop Cardow Diamond Center Store on Main St. & two locations in Havensight Mall at the cruise ship dock. Cardow offers an "Unconditional Money Back Guarantee"! #302

3a. OMNI LINEN KINGDOM
Paul and his wife Sheila "Circle the Globe" to bring YOU the very best deals on Linen! A 72 x 90 inch hand embroidered table cloth with 8 matching napkins for just \$35!

3b. OMNI JEWELRY

Paul and Sheila are proud of their 25 Year Continuous Relationship with cruise ship guests! They always offer Extra Special "Family Discounts". "The More You Buy at OMNI, The Less You Will Pay at OMNI!" Shop their huge selection of gold and gemstone jewelry! Paul GUARANTEES, "If you wish to return any item for any reason within 30 days of purchase Paul will refund your Full Purchase Price. GUARANTEED!"

4. KIDS INTERNATIONAL

Kids International for all the latest and "hippest" European styles for kids! at incredible prices 20-50% Off U.S.

5. TANZANITE INTERNATIONAL

Savings of up to 60% compared to Stateside! An entire store is dedicated to the mystical gemstone that becomes increasingly popular and more valuable daily. Huge selection of both loose and set pieces in all shapes and sizes. New York based customer service, call 1-800-51-JEWEL. Tanzanite Earrings for \$5 at any location. Your choice of 1-3ct Tanzanite on the tray for only \$229!

6. B. K. PASSMAN GALLERY

Mr. Passman combines premium gem quality black coral with premium Russian White Diamonds. All works signed by "The Master" B.K.P! Located at Main Street and Havensight Mall.

7. DEL SOL

T-shirts, polo shirts, tank tops, board shorts, and more. Solize™ Sunglasses: Polarized, polycarbonate lenses with lifetime guarantee. Kids: T-shirts, yo-yo's, sport discs and hair clips. Accessories: Hats, visors, beach bags, nail polish. Jewelry: Sterling silver rings, pendants, earrings. FREE color changing ring! #813

8. MR. TABLECLOTH

Micro Fiber, absolutely No Iron & Totally Stain Resistant! Shop Irish linen, organdy, & cotton tablecloths & accessories, ladies pima cotton lace nightgowns. Satin pajamas for ladies and children. SPECIAL: 72 X 90 inch table cloth plus 8 napkins for \$25.95!

9a. ROYAL CARIBBEAN

Best cameras and electronics! The latest in 35mm video and digital cameras. Newest in MP3 players, CD and DVD players. Free Digital Watch with Purchase over \$50!

9b. ROYAL CARIBBEAN

Huge selection of fine watches. His and Her's Movado Museum Watches: 2 for \$395! Kabana Jewelry and John Atencio. Diamonds selection. #292

10. DIAMONDS INTERNATIONAL WATCH AND DESIGN CENTER

Designer Watches by Audemars Piquet, Wittnauer, Michele, Festina, Bertolucci, Locman, Gerald Genta, Versace and Maurice LaCroix. Beautiful Designer Jewelry!

11. BOOLCHAND'S

Specializing in digital still cameras, digital video cameras, electronics, jewelry, & watches. #1131

12. A.H. RIISE STORES

• a) Liquor, Tobacco and Fragrance: Save up to 58% and more on a vast selection of name brand liquors. Free tasting bar. Guaranteed delivery to ships. Will match published liquor prices. Purchases guaranteed.

• b) Rolex Watches at A.H. Riise: A.H. Riise Stores is the V.I.'s Official Rolex Retailer, offering one of the Caribbean's largest selections.

• c) The Crystal Shoppe at A.H. Riise: Lladro flagship store, Waterford and Swarovski Crystal Boutiques, bridal registry, Hummel figurines and more.

• d) Davante: The largest eye-ware collections from Chanel, Oliver Peoples, Cartier, Ferre and more. Located at the A.H. Riise Mall. Riise's 37 Main St. Store.

• e) Fresh Produce: Great selection of resortwear in signature colors, comfortable styling and coastly inspired original prints and fabrics. Located in the A.H. Riise Mall.

13. CAPTAINS' CORNER

The Captain commands exciting stores on Main St., the waterfront & Havensight Mall! Best Souvenirs at the best Prices! The largest walk-in humidor in St. Thomas on Main St. The finest Cigars.

14. AL COHEN

Havensight's popular home for Duty Free Liquor. Save Up to 50% off U.S.! Guaranteed ship delivery.

**Dinner & Wine not included!*

Jewels at A.H. RIISE: Located inside the A.H. Riise Mall, carries the largest selection of the finest brand name jewelry and Swiss timepieces at 35% below stateside. David Yurman Boutique: Jewels at A.H. Riise is proud to be the home of the internationally famous David Yurman Boutique on Main Street. The David Yurman Boutique houses the largest selection of David Yurman Jewelry and Watches in the world! Patek Philippe Boutique: Jewels at A.H. Riise is proud to be the home of the internationally famous Patek Philippe Boutique on Main Street.

The Largest Collection of
Ammolite Jewelry in the world!
One mine in the world, only one
store in St. Thomas! Ammolite
Rings, Bracelets, Pendants,
Earrings, Bellyrings, Tux Studs, in
14kt or 18k gold. Super Affordable
Ammolite Silver Collection!
Amazing 70 million year old
collection of Ammonite fossils and
prehistoric shark's teeth.

Great values on the best selection of diamonds, emeralds, tanzanite, and all colored gemstone jewelry in the Caribbean! Azura's sister company owns nine jewelry factories around the world offering you factory direct savings! Amazing array of famous name brand designer watches including Jaeger Le Coultre, Breitling, Omega, Ebel, Baume & Mercier, Longines, Raymond Weil, Rado, Gucci, Michele, Swiss Army, Tissot and Citizen. Check out Azura's 50% off sale! Loose stones and semi mounts. Quality, value and service. International warranties, certified appraisals. Instant credit available! 3 convenient locations: Main Street, Waterfront and Havensight.



What's Ashore

LEGISLATURE BUILDING

USVI government is similar the 50 states. Senate meets in a green (1874) Danish police barracks just off King's Wharf near the waterfront. If the Territory Assembly is in session, debates can be entertaining. Nearby Emancipation Garden remembers the 1848 Danish liberation of slaves, nearly 20 years before the Emancipation Proclamation. Danes abolished slave trade five decades earlier.

FORT CHRISTIAN

Across the garden from the Legislature, Fort Christian, dedicated in 1678, is one of the island's oldest structures. The old walls formed the colonial boundaries. The dungeon museum relics include antique maps, and odd historic relics. The fort was begun in 1671 when King Christian V sponsored the lucrative colony.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

The mansion was built in the mid-1860s, and serves as administrative

headquarters for the USVI territory. The gates are guarded, but with permission, it is possible to view the lower floors. The interior features rich mahogany work, and murals commemorate Columbus and his discovery of the islands in 1493 along with other important pieces of island history.

ST. PETER GREATHOUSE

Not far from Drake's Seat, the observation point Sir Francis Drake used to guard his fleet, St. Peter Greathouse is in the midst of a lush Botanical Garden. The

former corporate guesthouse has been transformed into an art gallery highlighting local artists. The view is spectacular. A trail traverses the three acres, and postings describe plant life.

SEVEN ARCHES MUSEUM

The seven arches are adornments to an 18th-century West Indian style Danish great house. The kitchen, slave quarters, and furnishings provide insight into lifestyles of the past. The home is still a private residence, but the second floor is a museum.

Historic Footprints...

- 1500BC Arawak (also known as Taino) and Ciboney tribes settle in the Caribbean.
- 1000AD Caribs drive northward.
- 1492 Christopher Columbus "discovers" the Caribbean islands. Believing he has reached the Asian coast, he names the islands Las Indias. The error has resulted in *West Indies* and erroneous term *Indians* in reference to indigenous people.
- 1493 During his second voyage, Columbus names *Las Once Mil Virgines* "the 11,000 virgins (islands)" in honor of St. Ursula and her 11 thousand martyred Virgins.
- 1503 Juan Bermúdez discovers Bermuda.
- 1645 Dutch governor is assassinated. Dutch settlers withdraw.
- 1655 Danish forces occupy St. Thomas
- 1665 Danish king Frederik III claims St. Thomas. The port of *Taphus* (later Charlotte Amalie) is established.
- 1667 Danes abandon the island discouraged by hurricane and disease.
- 1671 Danish West Indian Co. is established.
- 1672 First Governor Geroage Iverson leads 189 settlers (116 indentured servants (bondsmen) and 61 convicts). Many die.
- 1673 First slave ship arrives.

- 1685 Danish colonists Brandenburg American Company is established to operate a slave-trading post. Local leaders turn a blind eye to pirates. Local merchants profit from sales of pirate "booty."
- 1691 Taphus is renamed Charlotte Amalie in honor of King Christian V's bride.
- c1725 Dronningens Gade (Main Street) becomes a place of legitimate businesses.
- 1733 St. John slaves revolt. It takes six months and army troops to quell the riots.
- 1754 Government is transferred to St. Croix.
- 1764 King Frederick V declares St. Thomas a free port. Charlotte Amalie prospers.
- 1801 Britain captures the Virgin Islands.
- 1802 Britain returns the island to Denmark.
- 1833 Britain abolishes slavery.
- 1848 Governor Peter von Scholten abolishes slavery and all related commerce. French colonies also outlaw the practice.
- 1917 United States purchases the Virgin Islands for \$25 million in gold. Navy administers the territory.
- 1956 Laurance Rockefeller donates 5,000-acre St. John to the National Park Service.
- 1996 Former US military base, *Water Island* becomes part of the USVI.

Port Shopping Buyer's Guarantee

Shop with confidence at each recommended store. All stores listed on the map have paid a promotional fee and have given Holland America Line's guests a Buyer's Guarantee valid for 30 days after purchase. This guarantee is valid for repair or exchanges. The following conditions apply: Guest negligence or buyer's regret is excluded. Only appraisals from certified, independent gemologists not affiliated with a retail jeweler will be considered. Electronics and watches requiring service must be returned by the consumer to the respective manufacturer. Price paid for merchandise or verbal claims/agreements between merchant and guest will not be grounds for return.

All purchases, including fragile items, must be checked before leaving the store. Do not mail merchandise without prior authorization. Guests are responsible for postage and appraisal costs. If you need assistance during the cruise, contact your Port & Shopping Ambassador (PSA). If you need assistance within 30 days of purchase, e-mail, contact or write (include a copy of your sales receipt) to our customer service representatives, The PPI Group, Inc., 4517 NW 31st Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-3403. Customer Service: 1-888-774-4768 or 954-377-7777 Email: HALservice@ppigroup.com Register online: <http://www.ppigroup.com/ppfservice.htm>

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Holland America Line

Nassau, New Providence Island

Port Particulars

Early explorers adopted the Spanish phrase *bajar mar* ("shallow sea") to describe the Bahamas archipelago, but Lukku-cairi people were first to settle in the islands. Sailing northward from South America in rickety canoes, the migration took hundreds of years, "stepping" along the chain of islands in the Caribbean. They reached the Bahamas in the 9th century.

Columbus' 1492 claim on the islands hastened an arrival of conquistadors eight years later. Hoping to find gold, they institutionalized slave labor, kidnapping indigenous people and forcing them to work in the Caribbean mines and pearl beds. During the period, the tribal people began to die from European disease. The few survivors were finished off by ill treatment in the labor camps. Since no gold was discovered in the islands and with no slaves left to trade, the Spaniards abandoned the islands for more hopeful sources of income, but retained control and ruled well into the 17th century.

Meanwhile, a small group of English pilgrims left Bermuda in 1647 seeking religious freedom elsewhere. Establishing what would become the first British colony on Eleuthera, they attracted other English settlers to follow, and a prosperous farming society soon flourished on Eleuthera and surrounding islands. The islands drew many people – not just members of local society. Because the craggy coastlines offered intricate hiding places, many well-known pirates, such as the infamous Edward Teach (also known as Blackbeard) and Anne Bonney dominated the islands for the next 70 years. Their methods were crude but effective. They lured naïve captains into the hazardous, shallows where their vessels floundered or ran aground. Then the pirates set upon them and plundered the ships as though they were struggling insects trapped in a spider's web. Britain had claimed the islands in 1670, but remained powerless against the predators for nearly 50 years. Finally, the nation's first governor, Woodes Rogers, drove them out in 1718.



Tracey Flynn
Port & Shopping Ambassador

When Cuba was closed to American tourists in the 1950s, the Bahamas seized the opportunity to become one of the world's most popular resort destinations.

Great Britain granted self-government in 1964 and in 1973, The Bahamas became independent within the Commonwealth of Nations.

Going Ashore: The ship is scheduled to dock at Prince George's Wharf in Nassau.

Official Language: English

Currency: Bahamian dollar

Beaches: West Bay Street leads around "go-slow bend" to Cable Beach. White sand rings the island.

In case of emergency contact:

Port Agent: R.H. Curry & Co., Ltd.

Telephone: 322-8681

1. DIAMONDS INTERNATIONAL WATCH & DESIGN

This must stop shop offers designer jewelry and timepieces at prices unmatched in the Caribbean. Designer watches by Piguet, Bertolucci, Cyma, Dubey & Schaldenbrand, Girard Perregaux, Jean Richard, Longines, Maurice Lacroix and Michele. Wonderful jewelry at duty-free savings from Asher, Breuning, Cassis, Christopher Designs, Bijou, Jacob Jewelry, John Hardy, La Nouvelle Bague, Raima, DeHago, Hidalgo, Mirabella and The 88-Cut Designer Diamond. Largest selection of diamond jewelry, includes amazing array of fancy colored diamonds! Remember to see your shore side shopping expert for your free diamond charm bracelet/charm to be picked up at this location.

1a. DIAMONDS INTERNATIONAL

The #1 recommended jeweler in the Caribbean offers the best buys. As the ONLY diamond wholesaler in the Caribbean, we guarantee unbeatable savings! This third generation jeweler has promised its customers the greatest value, highest quality, and most personal service around. Their in-house gemologists and professional staff aim to serve you. GIA and EGL certified diamonds with lifetime upgrades and trade-ins. Diamond tennis bracelets for \$299! DI also carries an extensive collection of colored gemstones featuring tanzanite, rubies, emeralds, sapphires, as well as designer timepieces and gold, make this "one stop shop".

2. TANZANITE INTERNATIONAL

A must stop for all your tanzanite. Tanzanite International is one of the largest buyers of Tanzanite in the world, reducing costs, and passing the savings onto you. Tanzanite comes from only one mine in the entire world so it is becoming increasingly rare. Don't miss out on your opportunity to obtain loose and set pieces while the prices are still affordable. A definite must have! Tanzanite earrings for only \$5! Pick your stone, select your mounting, and Tanzanite International will have it set for you before your ship sails.

3. THE JEWELLERY BOX *-Mike*

Enormous Inventory of Tanzanite! Tanzanite Rings \$45! Top Quality Triple A Rated Loose Tanzanite Stones at 50% Savings! 14K Italian Gold Chains and Bracelets. Best Price on Loose Diamonds! Dealing directly with Antwerp-No Middle Man-Save 50%! Special Prices on Colombian Emeralds, Sapphires and Ruby Rings. Mike's Brazilian Gem Mine features ALL Birth Stones at Sensational Savings! FREE Tanzanite Perfume with a Tanzanite Purchase! #298

4. DEL SOL

T-shirts, polo shirts, tank tops, board shorts, and more. Solize™ Sunglasses: Polarized, polycarbonate lenses with lifetime guarantee. T-shirts, yo-yo's, sport discs and hair clips. Hats, visors, beach bags, nail polish. Sterling silver rings, pendants, and earrings. FREE color-changing ring!

5. FAR EAST TRADERS

Do not miss this opportunity to take home the finest linens at the lowest prices that you have ever seen! Far East Traders offers you newest and most exciting gifts!

6. SENOR FROG'S

You've heard about it, now experience it, Senor Frog's! The Party Headquarters! Open everyday 11am - 3am! #909

7. SUNSATION T-SHIRT OUTLET

2 Great Locations! One Block East of the Cruise Ships, Go Left on Bay Street. Do All your Souvenir Shopping at this one stop shop! T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Dresses, Sweat Shirts all up to XXXL all 100% Cotton Pre-Shrunk Guaranteed First Quality! 3 T-Shirts for \$8.99, Caps 3 for \$14, Coffee Mugs 3 for \$7.95. Check out our exclusive line of "PIRANA JOE" Shirts. Show your Map for a free gift!

8. PIRANA JOE

All Pre-Shrunk 100% Cotton Funwear! Pigment Dyed T-Shirts (Kids & Adults). Polo Shirts. Back Packs & Tote Bags & Much More. Free Gift !! No Purchase Necessary.

9. GOLDEN KARAT

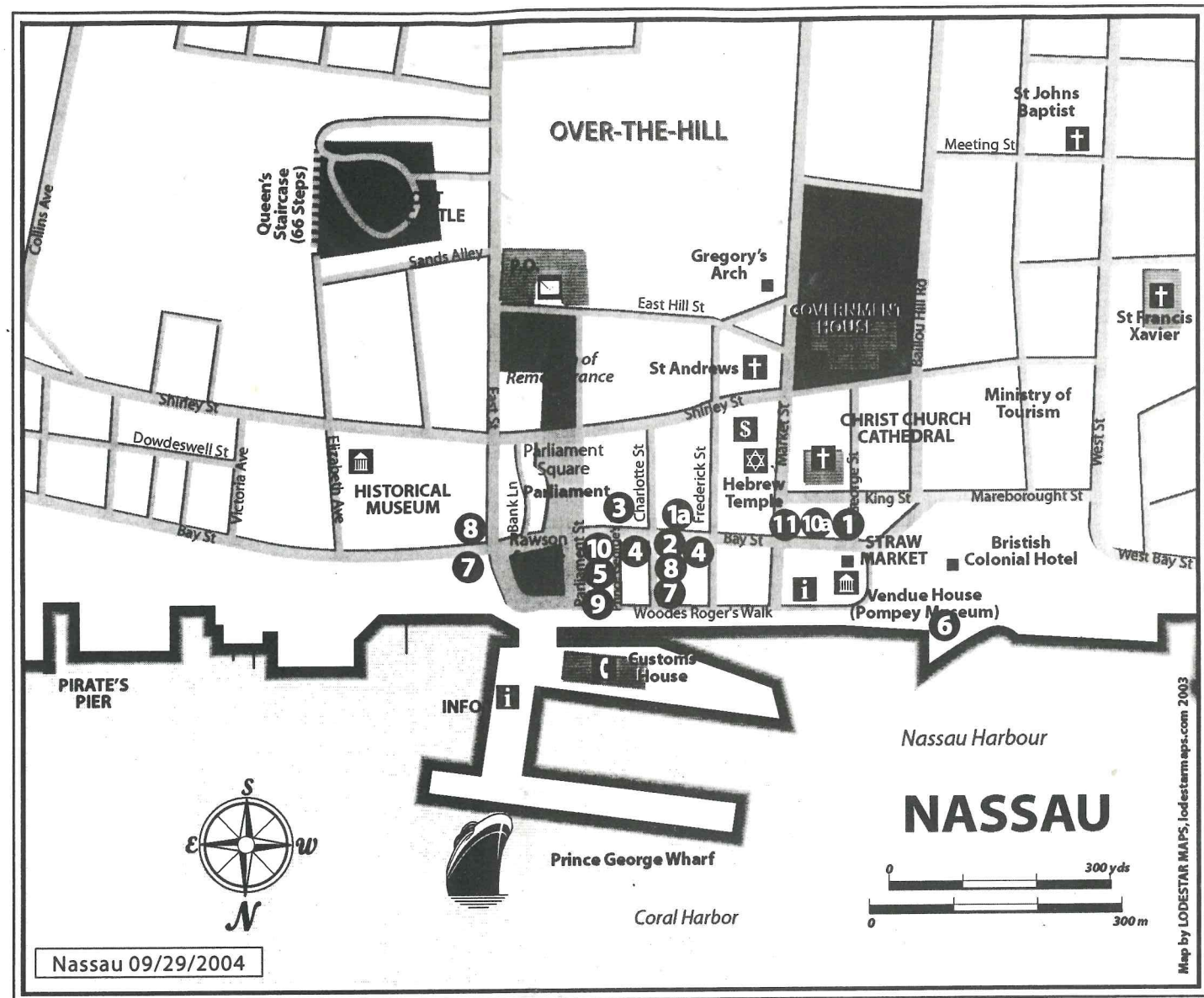
All gold Jewelry is 14K at the lowest Island price! 14K Reversible Omega's Starting from \$299.99. Caribbean Topaz, starting from \$99.99. Over 500 styles of anklets and earrings. Chains, Bracelets and Omega necklaces at great prices! Dazzling selection of Rings and Charms. Caribbean Hook Bracelets. All gold product is hypoallergenic and nickel free. International life time guarantee!

10. COLOMBIAN EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL

CEI is proud to be one of the largest duty-free jewelers in the world. A 30-year Reputation for Quality, Service and Value, has earned CEI the Best Duty-Free Retailer of the Year Award! Specializing in the finest emeralds from the mines of Colombia. CEI also offers a large selection of other gemstones such as tanzanite, gold jewelry and watches. Watches: Jaeger Le Coultre, Amoro, Ebel, Baume & Mercier, Longines, Tissot, Citizen, Seiko, and Lancaster. Significant Savings, International Guarantees, Certified Appraisals at time of purchase. Free 90-Day Insurance coverage for all purchases against damage, loss, or theft. Instant Credit and 10% off Your First Jewelry purchase for U.S. and Canadian Residents: Present a valid photo ID and major credit card to open a DUTYFREE.com Gold Advantage Card.

10A. COLOMBIAN EMERALDS INTERNATIONAL

An extensive collection of emerald, gemstone jewellery, gold and watches. With more than 35 stores and 30 years experience Colombian Emeralds International carries exclusive designer lines such as Baraka, Antonini, Arata and Olivia. Colombian Emeralds International has something for every one from the affordable to the fabulous!



11. JEWELER'S WAREHOUSE

Affordable Fine Jewelry from The Islands Value Leader. Up to 50% off quality jewelry and fine watches. Diamonds, emeralds, rubies, sapphires, pearls, tanzanite, and fine Italian gold jewelry. Seiko and Citizen fashion watches. All jewelry comes with a certified appraisal.



Holland America Line

What's Ashore

PARLIAMENT SQUARE

Parliament Square is home of the Bahamian government, the oldest parliamentary government in the Americas. Loyalists built the pastel-colored buildings in the early 1800s. The Houses of Parliament, the old Colonial Secretary's Office, and the Supreme Court, surround a marble statue of Queen Victoria. The annual opening of the Supreme Court ritual fills the square with pomp and pageantry.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

According to historic records, Governor Fitzwilliam lived on the present site of Government House as early as 1737. At that time, the property was privately owned, but the Bahamian government purchased it in 1799. Built in 1801, the standing colonial style mansion was damaged during hurricane season in 1929, but the pink and white renovation was initiated almost immediately afterward. Set in lovely tropical gardens, it is the official residence of the Governor-General of The Bahamas.

The 12-foot statue in front is Christopher Columbus. Governor James Carmichael Smythe brought it from London in 1830 to honor the Italian explorer's historic 1492 landing at San Salvador.

GREGORY ARCH

Near Government House, an arch marks one end of the tunnel that leads into Grants Town. Grant's Town was one of many post-abolition laborers' villages. People had to climb the hill before the tunnel was built, so it is often called "over the hill."

QUEEN'S STAIRCASE

At the end of Elizabeth Avenue 65 steep steps (one for each year of Victoria's reign) was a slave-built escape route for Fort Fincastle to be used in the event of mortar fire.

THE POMPEY MUSEUM

Formerly known as Vendue House, The Pompey Museum of Slavery and Emancipation is housed in an authentic 18th-century *bourse* ("auction house") for slaves. Exhibits include relics and photographs related to the former trade.

Historic Footprints...

1500BC Arawak and Ciboney tribes settle in the Caribbean region
1000AD Caribs drive northward from origins in the Orinoco Basin
1492 Christopher Columbus lands at San Salvador, Bahamas.
1647 Eleutheran Adventurers, a British-Bermudian religious group, establishes the first permanent European settlement in the Bahamas.
1666 New Providence colonization begins.
1684 The islands are abandoned for a period of approximately two years.
1706 Pirates rule the islands
1717 Bahamas is a British Crown Colony.
1776 Americans occupy the Bahamas
1782 Spanish forces occupy the Bahamas.
1783 Spain returns the Bahamas to British control under the Treaty of Paris.
1790 Freed slave Prince Williams from South Carolina, went to Nassau, Bahamas, where he started Bethel Meeting House.
1804 Turks and Caicos Islands become part of the Bahamas and remain so for 40 years.
1834 Slavery ends in the Bahamas.
1930 Sir Lynden Pindling (celebrated Bahamian leader) is born

1940-45 Duke of Windsor (former King Edward VIII) is governor of the Bahamas.
1942 Unarmed US freighter Mariana is torpedoed and sunk by a U-boat east of Nassau.
1950 Britain allows the US to build a Bahamas military test range and tracking station.
1955 Freeport is a free trade zone. Offshore banking and tourism mushroom.
1964 Bahamas is semi-autonomous.
1967 Lynden Pindling is prime minister
1969 As another step toward independence, the autonomous Commonwealth of the Bahamas is established.
1973 The Bahamas is an independent nation. The islanders choose to continue recognizing the British throne, however.
1983 Sir Lynden Pindling is knighted.
1992 Hubert Ingraham wins the election as prime minister, ending 25 years of rule by Pindling.
1996 Ingraham reinstates the death penalty for murder.
1999 Hurricane Floyd devastates the islands.
2000 Sir Lynden Pindling dies
2001 Dame Ivy Dumont is the first female Governor general in the Bahamas.

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All purchases, including fragile items, must be checked before leaving the store. Do not mail merchandise without prior authorization. Guests are responsible for postage and appraisal costs. If you need assistance during the cruise, contact your Port & Shopping Ambassador (PSA). If you need assistance within 30 days of purchase, e-mail, contact or write (include a copy of your sales receipt) to our customer service representatives, The PPI Group, Inc., 4517 NW 31st Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309-3403.
Customer Service: 1-888-774-4768 or 954-377-7777
Email: HALservice@ppigroup.com
Register online: <http://www.ppigroup.com/ppfservice.htm>